THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) During the Financial Year 2005-06, the following grants were released to Sahitya Akademi, Sangeet Natak Akademi and Lalit Kala Akademi:

	Sahitya Akademi	Sangeet Natak Akademi	Lalit Kala Akademi
Plan	Rs. 10,24,80,992/-	Rs. 12,17,90,000/-	Rs. 5,57,04,000/-
Non-Plan	Rs. 3,30,00,000/-	Rs. 4,60,00,000/-	Rs. 2,90,00,000/-

The accounts of the three Akademies for the year 2005-2006 have been audited by the Director General of Audit, Central Revenues.

(b) Though some deficiencies have been pointed out for corrective action, the Audit has not pointed out any serious irregularities.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Indian Culture is propagated through cultural exchange programmes with different countries.

Siphoning of funds allocated to Indian Museum in Kolkata

505. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of siphoning of funds allocated to Indian Museum in Kolkata;

(b) if so, what is magnitude of funds misappropriated and whether any steps have been initiated to bring the culprits to books;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Indian Museum is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Culture established under an Act of Parliament.

The office of Principal Director of Audit (Central) Kolkata, undertook Transaction Audit of Indian Museum, Kolkata during May-June, 2007. The Audit has pointed out certain irregularities pertaining to Indian Museum.

Indian Museum has entrusted the CBI for further investigation into the matter.

Preservation of historical monuments in Delhi

†506. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take steps to preserve historical monuments;

(b) if, so, the details thereof State-wise, particularly in Delhi;

(c) the names of historical monuments for which grant is being provided, State-wise, particularly those situated in Delhi; and

(d) the amount incurred on the maintenance of these monuments during last three years till date, State-wise, project-wise particularly in the case of Uttar Pradesh?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.